



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
Dr. G. A. (Jim) Shirazi, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

August 22, 1983

Mr. O. L. Fyock
Environmental Specialist
American Gilsonite Company
Bonana, Utah 84008

RE: Gilsonite Vein
Fencing and Closure Program
Bonanza Operations
ACT/047/010A, B and C
Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Fyock:

Chevron Resources Company and American Gilsonite Company are to be commended on their proposed program to improve existing conditions resulting from past and present mining operations on Chevron property. Fencing all gilsonite veins, and closing and reclaiming those abandoned veins which were mined prior to the 1975 Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act is certainly a positive and much favored project. As discussed with the staff, this reclamation project involving pre-1975 operations will not be considered as a mining activity subject to current Division regulations, as long as any additional disturbances created by the project are properly addressed.

We appreciate Chevron's spirit and cooperation in voluntarily ensuring public safety and protection of the environment, while responsibly developing the State's vast mineral resources. Allowing the Division to contribute its expertise in this effort and keeping us informed of the progress of the project is also appreciated.

Sincerely,

JAMES W. SMITH, JR.
COORDINATOR OF MINED
LAND DEVELOPMENT

JWS/btb

cc: Dr. Jim Shirazi, DOGM
R. Daniels, DOGM
M. A. Wright, DOGM
T. Tetting, DOGM



American Gilsonite Company
A Subsidiary of Chevron Resources Company
Bonanza, UT 84008 • Phone (801) 789-1921

Bonanza Mining Operations

August 3, 1983

File ACT/047/010
Copy to Ran D.,
Mary Ann

AUG 05 1983

JIM

AUG 17 1983

DIVISION OF

GAS & MINING

Mr. James W. Smith
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Smith:

On June 8, 1983 I met in Salt Lake City with five members of your staff to discuss modifications to the Bonanza Operation's ACT/047/010 A, B, C Mine and Reclamation Plan. During this meeting, numerous items concerning the plan were clarified for both parties involved. I immediately embarked on revisions and additions for the Plan. Thus far, the following items have been or are nearly completed.

- 47 Soil samples obtained and sent off for analysis
 - 28 active and inactive mine sites
 - 15 undisturbed areas
 - 4 facility sites
- 15 Vegetative transects conducted
- 28 Mine sites inventoried
- Re-mapping, locating and drafting of all facilities
- Inventory and measuring of top soil stock piles
- Engineering initiated on Solar Pad mitigation
- Renewal of NPDES Permit completed

Compilation, drafting and final analysis of data will be completed in September. All information will then be submitted as "Revised" pages to be inserted in the Mine and Reclamation Plan that was submitted to the state in March 1983.

Chevron's intentions of fencing all gilsonite veins belonging to the Company was discussed. The fencing project is to commence on approximately August 15, 1983 and will continue for two years. A five strand barbed wire fence will

Mr. James W. Smith
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
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be placed on six foot metal posts, 50 foot from either edge of the vein. Signs reading "Danger - Caving Area" will be placed at 50 foot intervals the entire length of the vein with three signs placed at each end.

Some locations may require vegetation to be stripped to provide access. No top soil will be removed. The seed mixture to be used for re-seeding will be the same as that proposed in the Mine and Reclamation Plan. Seeding will be done in either the fall or spring seeding windows.

The fencing is scheduled as follows:

1983

Rainbow Vein	
(West end to Tennessee Claim)	Fencing
Wagonhound Vein (WH-5)	Fencing
Pride of the West Vein	Fencing
Little Emma Vein	Fencing
Eureka Vein	Fencing
Eureka Vein	Fence Repair
Independent Vein	Fence Repair
Bonanza Vein	Fence Repair

1984

Rainbow Vein	
(East end to Tennessee Claim)	Fencing
Harrison Vein	Fencing
Dragon Vein	Fencing
Neal Vein	Fencing

Also discussed with the staff was a proposed reclamation project to be conducted on veins that were mined prior to the Mined Land Act (1975). Approximately fourteen miles of open veins exist and Chevron wishes to initiate a project to close the veins and reclaim the surface. As stated above, the mined veins do not fall under current regulations for reclamation, therefore, it was suggested that Chevron and the Division draft an agreement stating the same and also stating that Chevron would be conducting the project by its own desire and could cancel the project at any time so long as any disturbance caused by the project was properly taken care of. The project will be a long term project.

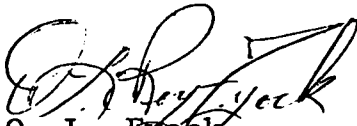
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To conduct closure techniques, existing fences would be moved to 150 feet from the open cut. In some locations, top soil would be stripped to provide access and drilling pads. Holes would then be drilled adjacent to the vein opening, filled with explosives and blasted, causing the openings to collapse inward. Once blasted, the closed vein would be allowed to sit for six to twelve months to observe stability. Once stability is determined, the area would be regraded, top soil respread and reseeded during the next planting cycle.

I would appreciate hearing from you on this matter as soon as possible, since we would like to conduct the first vein closures this fall.

Thank your for your time.

Sincerely,



O. L. Fyock
Environmental Specialist

OLF:vjw

cc: ~~T. N. Tattling~~
R. L. Haffner
R. F. Dewey
M. E. Pitzak
R. E. Carlbert